

## Message Text

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AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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FOR: IOP/M, INA, IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: SUDANESE MEDIA REACTION REPORTING (FEB. 14-20, 1977)

REF: WIS-17, USIA 4145, FEB. 11, 77

ALL SUDANESE MEDIA, PARTICULARLY AL-SAHAFI AND AL-AYAM ARABIC DAILIES, GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO YOUNG IN AFRICA AND VANCE IN M.E. IN ADDITION TO DETAILED STRAIGHT NEWS BASED ON WIRE SERVICES, THE TWO DAILIES PUBLISHED EDITORIALS AND ARTICLES ON BOTH EVENTS AS WELL AS NEW CARTER ADMINISTRATION:

1. YOUNG TRIP TO AFRICA AND BEYOND

AL-AYAM SAID, "CHAIRMAN OF GENEVA CONFERENCE ON RHODESIA AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG ARE NOW LEADING HALF-DEAD NEGOTIATIONS ON THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM...THE ONLY WAY IS TO INCREASE ARMED STRUGGLE TO TELL OUR FRIENDS RICHARD, YOUNG, CALLAHAN, SMITH AND VORSTER TO NEGOTIATE AS THE GUN AWAITS."

AL-SAHAFI GAVE PROMINENT PLAY TO YOUNG'S STATEMENT DESCRIBING ETHIOPIA SITUATION AS VERY DANGEROUS. STATEMENT WAS MAIN FRONTPAGE HEADLINE AND SUBTITLED WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER OF STATE COMMENT, "YOUNG'S STATEMENT IS RESULT OF U.S. CONCERN ABOUT DESTRUCTION PRACTICED BY MILITARY JUNTA IN ETHIOPIA." ARTICLE STATED "PRESIDENT NIMERI IS THE FIRST TO WARN THE WORLD OF WHAT IS GOING ON THERE. THE WORLD NOW REAL-  
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IZES THE ETHIOPIAN DANGER AND ITS POSSIBLE EFFECTS ON THE FUTURE OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY."

IN SAME ISSUE, AL-SAHAFI ARTICLE ENTITLED: "WHAT FOLLOWS YOUNG'S TOUR", SAID "IT IS OBVIOUS TO INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS THAT EXTENSIVE U.S. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA LAST OCTOBER HAD DOMESTIC CAUSES RELATED TO FORMER PRESIDENT FORD AND DR. KISSINGER"...WHICH WAS, "THE REASON FOR THE AMBIGUITY

THAT CHARACTERIZED THE ANGLO-AMERICAN INITIATIVE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA." SAHAFA CONCLUDED, "A LOOK AT YOUNG, TRIP MAKES ONE ASK ONE SPECIFIC QUESTION: "WHAT AFTER YOUNG'S TRIP?"

2. VANCE MIDDLE EAST TRIP:

SUDAN NEWS AGENCY (SUNA) FEB. 13 HIGHLIGHTED VANCE INTERVIEW WITH ARAB JOURNALISTS IN WASHINGTON FEB. 10. SUNA ALSO PUBLISHED LONG EXCERPTS OF THE INTERVIEW IN ITS "WEEKLY REVIEW" ON FEB. 18.

AL-AYAM'S EDITORIA TITLED: "AMERICA: FAILURE OR SUCCESS\*", SAID, "WE WANT TO ASSURE SECRETARY VANCE, WHO EXPRESSED JOY ON VISITING EGYPT, THAT ALL ARABS ARE VERY HAPPY FOR HIS VISIT. NOW, IF ONLY VANCE AND HIS ADMINISTRATION COULD GIVE MORE SUPPORT TO OUR JUST ISSUE AND THE NECESSITY OF REALIZING A JUST PEACE IN AREA. IT IS TRUE THAT VANCE HAS NO MAGIC SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM. HOWEVER, U.S. CAN EXERCISE MORE PRESSURE ON ISRAEL, INSTEAD OF GRATIFYING IT WITH CONCUSSION BOMBS, PHANTOMS, AND BILLIONS OF DOLLARS. THESE PRESSURES ARE IMPORTANT EVEN TO U.S. INTERESTS IN THE AREA." AL-AYAM CONCLUDED, "THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT VANCE AND THE U.S. MUST INTENSIFY THEIR EFFORTS, OTHERWISE ISRAEL WILL SUCCEED IN FRUSTATING VANCE'S MISSION AND THE ARABS WILL FIND THEMSELVES FACING THE UNAVOIDABLE SOLUTION\*".

AL-AYAM LATER ADDED, "AFTER VANCE DISCLOSED THAT THE U.S. WOULD SUPPLY ISRAEL WITH ALTERNATIVE TO CONCUSSION BOMBS, ISRAEL PREMIER RABIN SAID HIS TALKS WITH VANCE SHOWED AGREEMENT ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE." AYAM ADDED, "WE ARABS DO NOT EXPECT U.S.-ISRAELI RELATIONS TO COLLAPSE OR DETERIORATE OR THE U.S. MILITARY AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BE CUT FROM ISRAEL. BUT, WE DON NOT ACCEPT THE U.S. AS THE ONLY AGENT CAPABLE OF FINDING UNCLASSIFIED

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AN ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. VANCE HAS THE SAME VIEW ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE AS ISRAEL HAS. THE ARABS SHOULD NOT MAKE BIG CONCESSIONS, IF THEY WANT TO RESTORE THEIR LANDS AND SECURITY." NEWSPAPER CONCLUDED, "IF VANCE AND HIS GOVERNMENT WANT TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM, THEY MUST CHANGE THIS VIEW."

AL-SAHFA'S FOREIGN NEWS EDITOR WROTE, "IT IS TRUE THAT U.S. HAS THE ABILITY TO EXERCISE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PRESSURE ON ISRAEL. BUT SINCE VANCE IS CARRYING NO NEW INITIATIVES OR PROPOSALS, HE WILL EXAMINE THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION FROM THE VIEW POINT OF A SUPER POWER. HE MUST PRESENT PROPOSALS COMMITTING ISRAEL AND THE OTHER PARTIES TO ATTEND THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE." EDITOR ADDED, "THESE VISITS MEAN NOTHING TO ISRAEL, UNLESS THESE OFFICIALS PRESENT STRONG PROPOSALS AND INSIST ON IMPLEMENTING THEM."

3. CARTER ADMINISTRATION:

AL-AYAM SAID, THE SOVIET UNION EXPECTED NO IMMEDIATE MOVEMENT BY CARTER UNTIL SEVERAL MONTHS AFTER THE INAUGURATION. THE SOVIETS WERE ASTONISHED BY MONDALE'S TOUR JUST TWO DAYS AFTER THE INAUGURATION. THIS PROMPT MOVEMENT IS SEEN BY OBSERVERS

AS A WAY TO PLUG THE GAP LEFT BY KISSINGER'S DEPARTURE".

4. SUDANESE MEDIA ALSO GAVE CONSIDERABLE STRAIGHT COVERAGE TO  
CLIFFORD TRIP TO GREECE, TURKEY, AND CYPRUS.  
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